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Russell, Richard B.
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Wipe Out The CIA

Sen. Richard B. Russell, of Georgia, is chairman of the Senate's CIA watchdog panel, which you might say keeps the agency straight and acts as conduit between it and the public.

Therefore the senator knows what he is saying when he says that recent disclosures of CIA activity, such as its funnelling money through foundations to various causes such as European labor and U. S. student organizations, have hurt the organization. We agree.

The agency has been flyblown and flyspecked by what the senator calls "this spate of confessions or revelations . . . by people who had supposedly been sworn to secrecy . . ."

Because of this, Sen. Russell said, the president ought to think of reorganizing it. He should indeed. The image is shattered. It is something of a joke. He should reorganize it out of existence and start over.

At this distance, and based on these disclosures, the CIA often seems in conflict with, or doing the same job as other intelligence arms of other government departments.

It probably is time we had a new delineation of authority, for it does seem that the CIA often gets in the way of older and probably more stable organizations such as the State Department.

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